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eliminating all the n-th letter instances from the resulting sequence, thereby
reconstructing the original n-1 letters plaintext message.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 34-39 have been added.

Applicant submits that no new matter has been added. Claims 17-23 and 33-39 are pending after the instant amendments.

The present amendment supplements the amendment filed on July 23, 2002. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims above are not anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art cited in the outstanding office action. Entry of this Amendment and issuance of a Notice of Allowance of the claims now presented, are respectfully solicited.

In the event there are any questions relating to this Amendment or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned agent concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited. Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 23-2185.

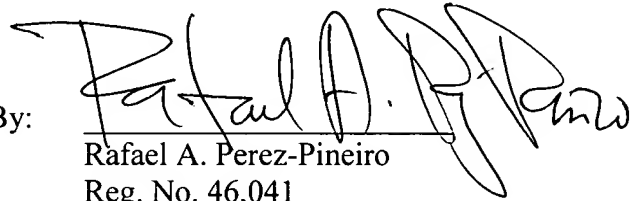
In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith and in the event that a separate petition does not accompany this response, Applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to

render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully Submitted,

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EXAMINER

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.